

## Message Text

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13

ORIGIN MMS-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 M-02 SP-03 PER-05

ABF-01 /043 R

DRAFTED BY M/MS: RGMAYS:DHG

APPROVED BY M/MS:MAWHITE

EUR/EX - MR. RATTRAY (PHONE)

S/NM - MR. WARNER (PHONE)

EUR - MR. HURWITZ (INFO)

----- 026740

R 092045Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL MILAN

UNCLAS STATE 174455

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OGEN, IT

SUBJECT: OPRED - DEA STAFFING IN ITALY FOR FY 1975

1. ON NOVEMBER 27, 1973, AT A JOINT MEETING CHAIRED BY SECRETARY KISSINGER AND ATTENDED BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE COMBINED MEMBERSHIP OF THE DOMESTIC COUNCIL CABINET COMMITTEES ON DRUG ABUSE AND THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL, APPROVAL WAS GIVEN IN PRINCIPLE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF 85 NEW DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION AGENT POSITIONS OVERSEAS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975. APPROVAL FOLLOWED OPENING REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT IN WHICH HE EXPRESSED PLEASURE WITH THE SUCCESSES OF OUR DRUG ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS, BUT ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE ROAD AHEAD WAS A LONG ONE AND THAT OUR INITIAL SUCCESSES SHOULD NOT BE USED AS AN EXCUSE FOR ANY LESSENING OF THE LEVEL OF EFFORT BEING MADE. HE ASKED THE CABINET TO GIVE NEW IMPETUS TO THE ATTACK ON NEWLY EMERGING PROBLEM AREAS AND TO DO AN EVEN BETTER JOB IN COMBATTING THE OLD. OF THESE 85 AGENT POSITIONS, ONLY FOUR ARE ALLOTTED TO EUROPE AND

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NONE TO ITALY.

2. DEA WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INSTRUCTED BY THE WHITE HOUSE TO REVIEW CAREFULLY ITS OVERSEAS STAFFING NEEDS AND TO INFORM THE DEPARTMENT EXACTLY WHERE IT PROPOSED TO ESTABLISH THE NEW POSITIONS AUTHORIZED BY THE CABINET COMMITTEES. DEA

HAS NOW PRESENTED ITS PROPOSAL TO THE DEPARTMENT IN DETAIL. WITH THE ADDITION OF CLERICAL AND OTHER PERSONNEL IN SUPPORT OF THE 85 AGENTS AUTHORIZED BY THE CABINET COMMITTEES, THE DEA PROPOSAL TO THE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF 116 NEW DEA POSITIONS ON A WORLD-WIDE BASIS DURING FY 75; 13 OF WHICH ARE FOR EUR, INCLUDING ONE AMERICAN SECRETARY FOR ITALY.

3. DEA ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO REQUEST ONE ADDITIONAL AMERICAN SECRETARY FOR THE ROME OFFICE BUT RECENT OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE SUGGESTS THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO ESTABLISH THE AMERICAN SECRETARIAL POSITION IN MILAN WHERE THERE IS NOW NO CLERICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE DEA OFFICE. IT IS ALSO PROPOSED TO TRANSFER A VACANT FOREIGN NATIONAL POSITION FROM MILAN TO ROME WHERE THERE IS ONLY ONE SECRETARY TO ASSIST THE FOUR SPECIAL AGENTS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENTS AND/OR CONCURRENCE ON THESE MINOR CHANGES PROPOSED BY DEA. KISSINGER

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